

**CHARTER COMMISSION  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
711 Kapiolani Blvd. Suite 1485  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813**



**A G E N D A**

**MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2006  
COMMITTEE ON STYLE MEETING**

**CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ROOM  
SECOND FLOOR  
CITY HALL**

**4:00 P.M.**

RECEIVED

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CITY CLERK  
HONOLULU, HAWAII

**1. Call to Order by Committee Chair Jared Kawashima**

**2. For Approval**

Minutes from July 19 and July 25, 2006. Copies of the draft minutes are available for review at the Charter Commission office and are posted on the Charter Commission's website at <http://www.honolulu.gov/chc/minutes.htm>

**3. Executive Administrator's Report**

Report and discussion regarding, among other matters:

- Recent discussions and decisions
- Upcoming scheduling and process

**4. Wording of Ballot Questions and Reference Phrases**

**FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION:**

The Committee will discuss and vote on the wording of ballot questions and reference phrases for Proposals 28, 33, 36, 55 Part 1, 55 Part 2, and 91. Draft language for ballot questions prepared by staff and Corporation Counsel as a starting point for discussion is provided as an attachment.

The Committee may reconsider ballot questions and reference phrases previously discussed and voted on at the July 19 and July 25 meetings, including but not limited to Proposals 1, 5, and the housekeeping items. These are also included in the attachment.

**5. Ordering of Questions on the Ballot**

**FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION:**

The Committee will discuss and vote on the ordering of questions on the ballot.

**6. Effective Dates**

**FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION:**

The Committee will discuss and vote on the draft section below and other possible provisions regarding effective dates.

“Section 16- Effective Date of Revisions -  
All provisions of the amendments to the charter of the City and County  
of Honolulu, approved on November 7, 2006, shall become effective as  
of the second day of January 2007, except as otherwise provided.”

**7. Announcements**

**8. Next Meeting**

To be determined.

**9. Adjournment**

**Notice regarding public testimony:**

Please note that under the Rules of the Commission, speakers are requested to submit two copies of their testimony. Written testimony may be mailed to the Commission, faxed to 592-8633, or e-mailed to [charter@honolulu.gov](mailto:charter@honolulu.gov). The Commission requests that written testimony be submitted no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting; however, if you bring written testimony directly to the meeting, the Commission requests that you

bring **20 copies, three-hole punched**. Testimony will be accepted on agenda items only, and will be taken at the time the item comes up for discussion by the Commission.

You are requested to register to speak if you wish to provide oral testimony. Generally, oral testimony will be limited to **five minutes**. However, a speaker's time may be limited to **three minutes** if, in the discretion of the chair, such limitation is necessary to accommodate all persons desiring to address the Commission at the meeting.

# **ATTACHMENT**

## **STYLE COMMITTEE MEETING 8/21/06**

In this attachment:

### **PART 1 - DRAFT BALLOT LANGUAGE**

Proposals 28, 33, 36, 55 Part 1, 55 Part 2, and 91

### **PART 2 - BALLOT LANGUAGE APPROVED ON JULY 25, 2006**

Proposals 1, 5, 27, 34, 71, S-9, and Housekeeping

Notes:

*Ballot Question* – In the form of “Should....?”

*Reference Phrase* – Clerk’s office also suggested we draft a very short phrase describing each proposal. This could be used on the website or other materials, and the Clerk’s office would use it when printing out the vote count reports.

## **PART 1 - DRAFT BALLOT LANGUAGE**

### **PROPOSAL 28**

*(Revised since last draft to reflect change to “elected officers”)*

#### **Draft Ballot Question**

Should the Ethics Commission have the authority to impose civil fines for ethics violations by elected officers?

#### **Draft Reference Phrase**

Civil fines for ethics violations

#### **Draft Ballot Question – version 2 (“standards of conduct” instead of “ethics”)**

Should the Ethics Commission have the authority to impose civil fines for violations of the standards of conduct by elected officers?

#### **Draft Reference Phrase – version 2**

Civil fines for standards of conduct violations

### **Alternative Language Proposed by Corporation Counsel 8/4/06**

#### **Draft Ballot Question**

Should the Ethics Commission have the authority to impose civil fines on elected officers for ethics violations?

#### **Draft Reference Phrase**

Civil fines for ethics violations

**PROPOSALS 33 AND 36**

*(On 7/25/06 the Style Committee voted to combine these proposals into one ballot question.)*

**Alternative Language Proposed by Corporation Counsel 8/4/06**

**Draft Ballot Question**

Should the charter be amended to state the additional services currently being provided by the director of emergency services to respond to medical matters relating to public health and welfare, injury protection and beach emergencies, and by the fire chief for hazardous material incident response and the provision of emergency medical care?

**Draft Reference Phrase**

Services of the Emergency Services Director and Fire Chief

**PROPOSAL 55 Part 1**

**Draft Ballot Question – as drafted earlier**

Should the current system of staggered council terms and council term limits be replaced by either Alternative A or Alternative B below?

**Draft Ballot Question – Version 2 (shorter)**

Should the current system of staggered council terms and council term limits be changed?

**Draft Ballot Question – Version 3 (mention current 2 term limit)**

Should the current system of staggered council terms and councilmembers' two-term limit be changed?

**Draft Reference Phrase**

Change staggering and term limits

**Alternative Language Proposed by Corporation Counsel 8/4/06**

**Draft Ballot Question**

Should the current staggered council terms be eliminated and council term limits be eliminated or extended from two consecutive four-year terms to three consecutive four-year terms?

**Draft Reference Phrase**

Eliminate staggered council terms and eliminate or extend council term limits

## **PROPOSAL 55 Part 2**

### **Draft Ballot Question – as drafted earlier**

If Charter Question X is approved by the voters at this election, which of the following two alternative proposals relating to terms of councilmembers do you favor? (Vote for Alternative A or Alternative B, but not for both proposals.)

ALTERNATIVE A. Term limits for councilmembers and the staggering of councilmembers' terms shall be eliminated. In 2008, candidates running to represent the odd-numbered council districts shall be running to serve two-year terms. In 2010, and every four years thereafter, candidates for all council seats shall be running to serve four-year terms.

ALTERNATIVE B. Councilmembers shall be limited to serving a maximum of three consecutive four-year terms, and the staggering of councilmember terms shall be eliminated. In 2008, candidates running to represent odd-numbered council districts shall be running to serve two-year terms. In 2010 and every four years thereafter, candidates for all council seats shall be running to serve four-year terms.

### **Draft Ballot Question – Version 2 (shorter)**

If Charter Question X is approved, which proposal relating to councilmember terms should be adopted?

ALTERNATIVE A. Term limits for councilmembers and the staggering of councilmembers' terms shall be eliminated.

ALTERNATIVE B. Councilmembers shall be limited to serving a maximum of three consecutive four-year terms, and the staggering of councilmember terms shall be eliminated.

### **Draft Reference Phrase**

Two alternatives for term limits and staggering

## **Alternative Language Proposed by Corporation Counsel 8/4/06**

### **Draft Ballot Question**

Should the Charter be amended to Alternative A or Alternative B, if Charter Question X relating to councilmember terms is approved by the voters at this election?

Alternative A: Eliminate both staggered council terms and council term limits.

Alternative B: Eliminate staggered council terms and extend council term limits effective 2010 from a maximum of two consecutive four-year terms to a maximum of three consecutive four-year terms without including any terms already served.

### **Draft Reference Phrase**

Eliminate staggered council terms and council term limits, or eliminate staggered council terms and extend council term limits

### **Draft Reference Phrase - if only one reference phrase is used for both Part 1 and Part 2**

Eliminate staggered council terms and eliminate or extend council term limits



**PROPOSAL 91**

*(Revised since last draft to reflect 2 separate funds)*

**Draft Ballot Question**

Should a minimum of one percent of annual property tax revenues be put into two funds: a Clean Water and Natural Lands Fund to be used for purchasing lands to protect clean water, open space, coastlines, and natural lands; and an Affordable Housing fund to be used for building and maintaining affordable housing; and should the unspent revenues in this fund remain in the fund, and not lapse, thereby accumulating from year to year?

**Draft Ballot Question – Version 2 (shorter)**

Should one percent of annual property tax revenues be appropriated to funds for land conservation and affordable housing?

**Draft Reference Phrase**

Land conservation and affordable housing funds

**Alternative Language Proposed by Corporation Counsel 8/4/06**

**Draft Ballot Question**

Should a minimum of one percent of the estimated annual property tax revenues be deposited into two special funds, one-half into the Clean Water and Natural Lands Fund to be used for the purchase of lands to protect clean water, open space, coastlines, and natural lands, and the other one-half into the Affordable Housing Fund to be used for building and maintaining affordable housing, with the unspent revenues in each fund to accumulate from year to year?

**Draft Reference Phrase**

One percent of annual property tax revenues for land conservation and affordable housing

**PART 2 - BALLOT LANGUAGE**  
**APPROVED BY STYLE COMMITTEE ON JULY 25**

**PROPOSAL 1**

**Ballot Question**

Should the City Council's power to reject Salary Commission recommendations be eliminated?

**Reference Phrase**

No Council rejection of Salary Commission

**Alternative Language Proposed by Corporation Counsel 8/4/06**

**Draft Ballot Question**

Should the Salary Commission establishment of salaries be final by eliminating the City Council authority to reject the Salary Commission action?

**Draft Reference Phrase**

Salary Commission final decision

## **PROPOSAL 5**

### **Ballot Question**

Should races with only two candidates be held in the General Election instead of the Primary Election?

### **Reference Phrase**

Races with two candidates in General Election

### **Alternative Language Proposed by Corporation Counsel 8/4/06**

#### **Draft Ballot Question**

Should the election of city elected officers be held at the second special election instead of the first special election when there are only two candidates for the city office?

#### **Draft Reference Phrase**

Eliminate the first special election when there are only two candidates for the office

## **PROPOSAL 27**

### **Ballot Question**

Should the Liquor Administrator, Deputy Administrator, and secretary be exempt from civil service provisions?

### **Reference Phrase**

Liquor Administrator exempt from civil service

## **PROPOSAL 34**

### **Ballot Question**

Should capital budget appropriations lapse 12 months after the fiscal year, instead of the current 6 months?

### **Reference Phrase**

Extend time for capital funds

## **PROPOSAL 71**

### **Ballot Question**

Should the powers, duties, and functions of the director of environmental services include comprehensive curbside recycling?

### **Reference Phrase**

Curbside recycling

## **PROPOSAL S-9**

### **Ballot Question**

Should the powers, duties, and functions of the director of transportation services include bikeway systems, and should it be one of the priorities of the department of transportation services to make Honolulu a pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly city?

### **Reference Phrase**

Pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly Honolulu; Bikeways

## **PROPOSAL - HOUSEKEEPING COMBINATION**

(Proposals 35, 51, 75, 76, 78, S-6, S-10)

### **Ballot Question**

Should the following housekeeping amendments be adopted?

- (a) Revise the powers, duties, and functions of the director of information technology
- (b) Include the director of customer services in the list of department heads to be appointed by the mayor with the advice and consent of the council and may be removed by the mayor
- (c) Include the Hawaii State Constitution prohibition on ethics commission members from taking active part in political campaigns
- (d) Delete the unconstitutional prohibition on political campaigning by police department employees
- (e) Delete the director of civil defense from the list of department heads to be appointed by the mayor with the advice and consent of the council and may be removed by the mayor
- (f) Delete the requirement of Social Security numbers on petitions for recall, ordinances by initiative, and charter amendments
- (g) Require public notices to be distributed via an electronic medium

### **Reference Phrase**

Housekeeping amendments

## **Alternative Language Proposed by Corporation Counsel 8/4/06**

### **Draft Ballot Question**

Should the Charter be amended to also provide public notice by electronic medium and for housekeeping amendments (a) to conform to current functions and operation, (b) to conform to legal requirements, (c) to correct an inadvertent omission, and (d) for clarity?

- (a) Revise the powers, duties, and functions of the director of information technology
- (b) Include the director of customer services in the list of department heads to be appointed by the mayor with the advice and consent of the council and may be removed by the mayor
- (c) Include the reference to the Hawaii Constitution prohibition on ethics commission members from taking active part in political campaigns.
- (d) Delete the unconstitutional prohibition on political campaigning by police department employees
- (e) Delete the civil defense administrator from the list of department heads to be appointed by the mayor with the advice and consent of the council and who may be removed by the mayor.
- (f) Delete the requirement of Social Security numbers on petitions for recall, ordinances by initiative, and charter amendments
- (g) Require public notices to also be distributed via electronic medium

### **Draft Reference Phrase**

Additional electronic notice and housekeeping amendments